



**HELPS**  
LATAM EXPERT

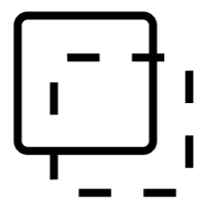


### RANGE

- 05** Severe
- 04** High Risk
- 03** Elevated
- 02** Guarded
- 01** Low

# LATAM SECURITY SITUATIONAL REPORT AUGUST, 2024

## BACKGROUND



Latin America is currently experiencing a complex convergence of crises that highlight the region's vulnerabilities in governance, security, and social stability. The recent reports from various countries reveal a troubling pattern of escalating violence, political unrest, and deep-seated corruption that are challenging both national and regional stability.

In Venezuela, President Nicolás Maduro's refusal to cede power to the opposition, whom he denounces as a "fascist oligarchy," exemplifies the political repression that has sparked widespread protests. These demonstrations, which have resulted in numerous deaths and forced disappearances, reflect the growing public discontent with Maduro's disputed re-election. The Venezuelan government's harsh crackdown on dissent, coupled with accusations of electoral fraud, has further isolated the country internationally and deepened the internal crisis.

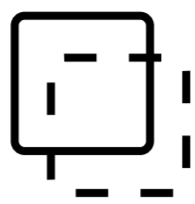
Similarly, Nicaragua is witnessing increased diplomatic tensions, particularly with Brazil, after the expulsion of ambassadors from both countries. This diplomatic rift is symptomatic of a broader authoritarian trend under President Daniel Ortega, whose government has consistently suppressed political opposition and curtailed civil liberties. The situation is compounded by reports of corruption and irregularities, such as the mass registration of Nicaraguan citizens in Honduras, likely for electoral manipulation, reflecting the lengths to which regimes in the region will go to maintain control.

In Central America, Honduras and El Salvador face their own set of challenges. Honduras has initiated a purge of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), ostensibly to ensure compliance with state regulations, but the move has raised concerns about the potential for political manipulation and the stifling of civil society. Meanwhile, El Salvador continues to grapple with gang violence, with the government's state of emergency leading to mass arrests and human rights abuses. The country's economic vulnerability is also exposed by the recent fluctuations in Bitcoin's value, a cryptocurrency in which the government has heavily invested.

Further south, in countries like Argentina and Brazil, the situation is equally dire but manifests differently. Argentina is on high alert for potential terrorist attacks, while the country struggles with a significant economic downturn, leading to massive job losses. Brazil, on the other hand, is witnessing the digitalization of organized crime, with powerful gangs like the Primeiro Comando da Capital (PCC) using technology to enhance their illicit activities. This shift towards more sophisticated criminal operations poses new challenges for law enforcement and threatens to further destabilize the region.

The Andean countries, particularly Bolivia and Colombia, are also under significant strain. Bolivia faces a troubling increase in human trafficking, especially among young people, alongside a sharp decline in its critical lithium export sector. Colombia, meanwhile, is contending with threats of political violence, including an assassination plot against President Gustavo Petro, and ongoing armed conflicts involving groups like the ELN and Clan del Golfo.

## BACKGROUND

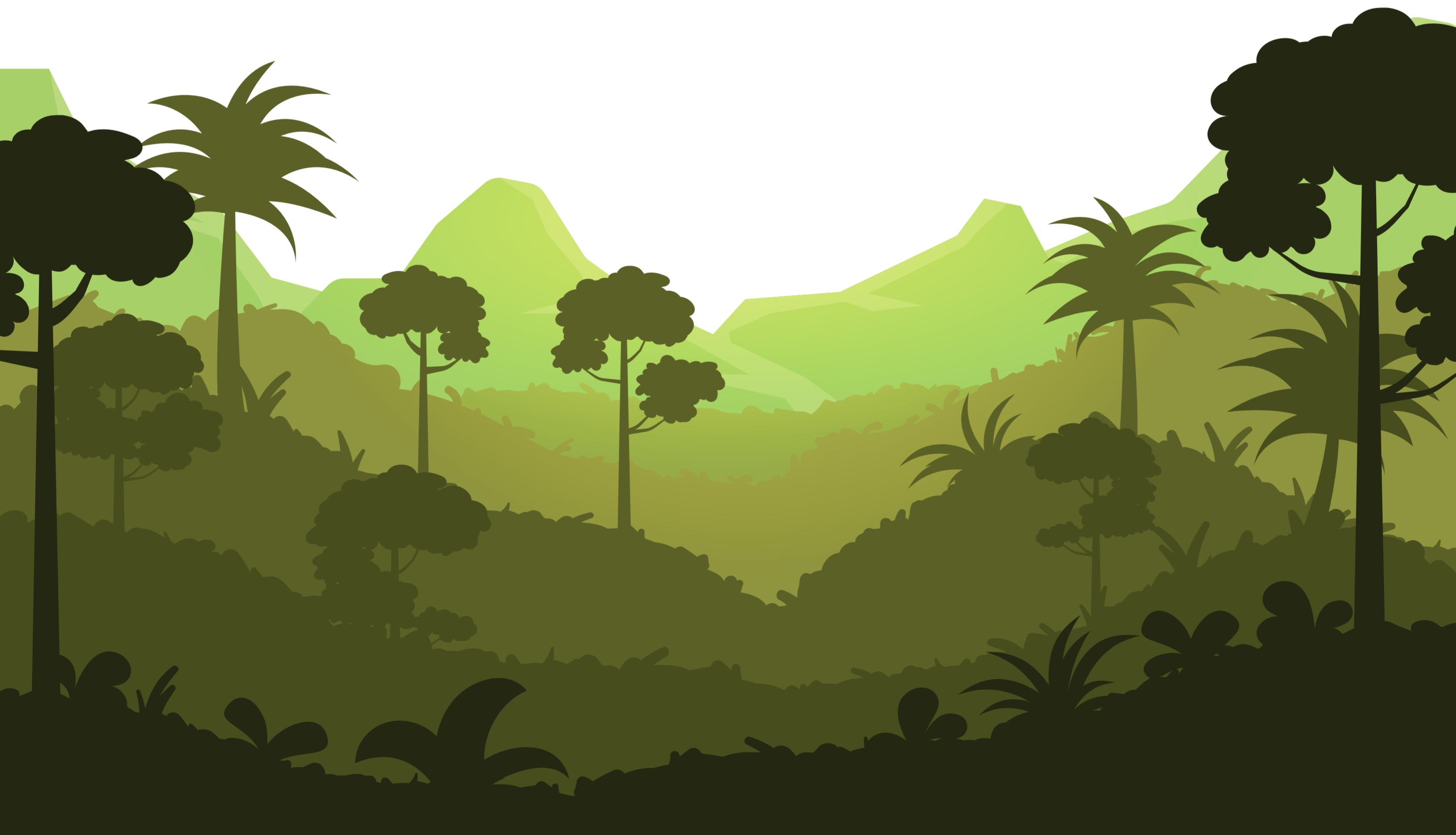


Environmental challenges and public health issues further compound these problems, as seen in Cuba's severe medicine shortages and Chile's response to natural disasters. These crises underscore the region's vulnerability to both man-made and natural threats, highlighting the need for more resilient and responsive governance structures.

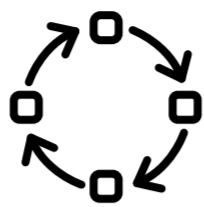
This report provides an in-depth analysis of the current situation in Latin America, revealing how the convergence of political, economic, and social crises is impacting the region's stability. From authoritarianism in Venezuela and Nicaragua to the rise of organized crime in Brazil and violence in Central America, it explores the underlying patterns driving these challenges. This document is essential for understanding the risks facing the region and the potential implications for the future.

Enjoy.

Kevin Palacios / @CoachSeguridad



## METHODOLOGY



The proposed methodology focuses on the assessment of vulnerabilities and threats across 22 Latin American nations. This approach is comprehensive and multidimensional, encompassing political, economic, sociocultural, technological, ecological, and legal aspects. Furthermore, it takes into account specific threats such as terrorism, organized crime, protests, common crime, cybercrime, climate disasters, and medical threats.

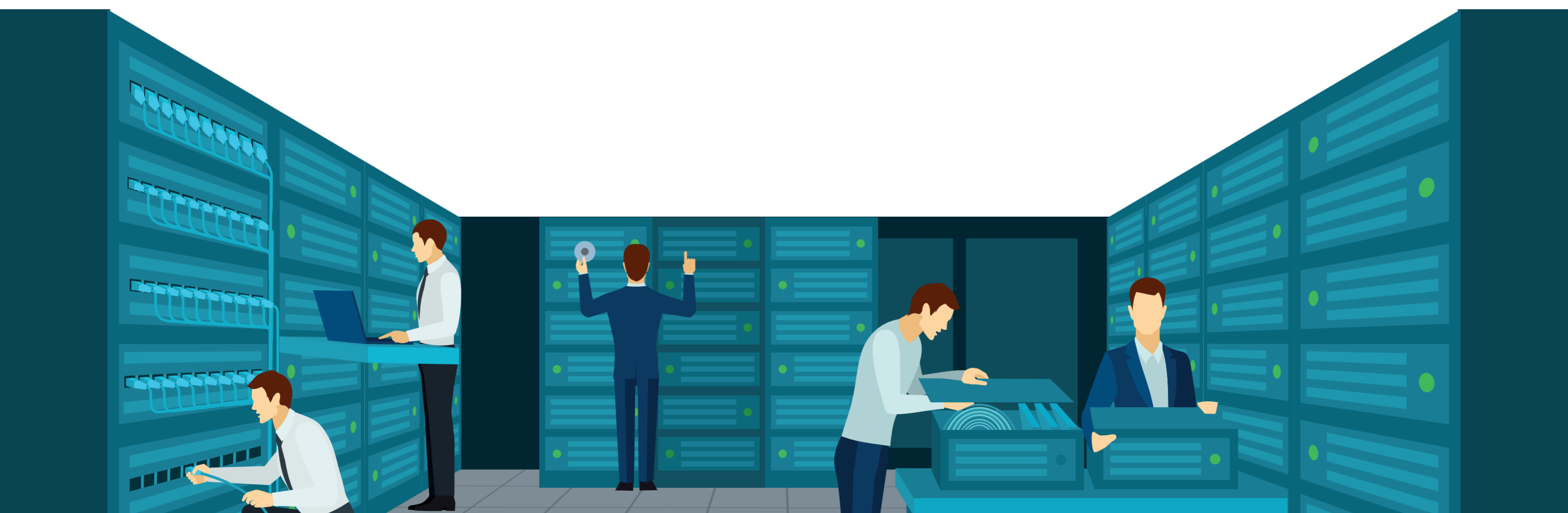
Data collection is carried out using official government sources, national and international media, and individual testimonials in each country. This approach ensures a broad and diverse view of the region's situation. Data is collected over a 15-day period, allowing for real-time analysis and its progressive evolution. Once the information is gathered, it is classified into different categories of vulnerabilities and risks. Each category is evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest level and 5 being the most severe. This scale allows for a quantitative assessment, facilitating comparison between different countries and categories.

The purpose of this methodology lies in the need to understand and measure vulnerabilities and threats within Latin America. This region is diverse and complex, with a variety of challenges and opportunities. By providing a quantitative assessment, it offers tools for evaluation and decision-making, research, and understanding of the situation in each country. Lastly, the methodology is dynamic and adaptable. By collecting data from a variety of sources and updating the information every 15 days, it can keep up with rapid changes in the political, economic, and social environment. This is especially important in a region like Latin America, where conditions can change quickly.

For more information, please contact.

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# ANTIGUA & BARBUDA



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,90/5

58,09%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	3
Economic	2	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	2	Protestors	2
Technological	3	Common Crime	4
Ecological	4	Medical	2
Legal	2	Environmental	5
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

On August 7, 2024, a shooting at East Bus Station left four people injured. The motive remains unclear, and police are investigating. Authorities have asked the public for information as concerns about security grow. The investigation continues to uncover the cause of the violence.

Hurricane Ernesto has intensified to Category 1 with winds of 75 mph, moving northwest at 16 mph away from Puerto Rico. Although no longer in its direct path, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands remain under a Tropical Storm Warning. Up to 10 inches of rainfall is expected, posing flood risks. Ernesto may approach Bermuda later this month as a stronger hurricane.

# ARGENTINA



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,54/5

70,95%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	4
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	5	Protestors	4
Technological	3	Common Crime	4
Ecological	4	Medical	4
Legal	3	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Argentine Chief of Staff Guillermo Francos warned of a potential "very strong" attack by Iran against Argentina, based on Israeli intelligence. This revives fears of the 1990s attacks on the Jewish community. Francos urged vigilance and precaution as the situation could escalate. Additionally, Argentine citizens in Lebanon were advised of the risks due to Middle Eastern military tensions.

In the first five months of Javier Milei's government, Argentina lost 115,000 registered jobs, according to SIPA. Employment declined across nearly all sectors, with a 1.4% year-over-year drop. Private sector employment fell by 2.1% since December 2023. Manufacturing, construction, and provinces like Tierra del Fuego and Formosa experienced the most significant job losses.



# BAHAMAS

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,82/5

56,42%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	2
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	2	Protestors	3
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	2	Environmental	4
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

As the Grand Bahama economy shows signs of recovery, the government faces renewed calls to investigate the Freeport Container Port (FPC) over alleged misconduct. In 2023, FPC reversed layoffs of 20 employees, reportedly after Prime Minister Phillip Davis intervened. Recently, an anonymous letter accused the company of labor and immigration violations at high levels. Minister of Foreign Affairs Fred Mitchell confirmed that the allegations are under investigation by the Ministries of Labour, Grand Bahama, and Immigration, with meetings held to address irregularities in work permit applications. Mitchell stressed that established processes and policies must be followed in hiring and issuing work permits.

# BOLIVIA

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,30/5

66,19%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	2
Economic	4	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	4
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	4	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	3

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

In the first half of 2024, Bolivia's Special Force to Fight Crime (Felcc) recorded 1,807 missing persons, resolving 80% of cases, but 427 remain missing. Most involve individuals aged 13 to 18, with La Paz reporting the most cases. Many disappearances are linked to human trafficking. The Felcc launched a digital safety campaign and recommends tools like "Family Link" for monitoring minors.

Bolivia's lithium carbonate exports dropped significantly in the first half of 2024, generating \$520,317 from 50.6 tons, mostly to China. This marks a 75% volume decrease and a 92% value drop compared to 2023. The average price per ton fell to \$9,731. Bolivia faces challenges in remaining competitive, with plans to boost production and efficiency by 2025.



# BRAZIL



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,66/5

73,33%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	4
Economic	4	Organized Crime	5
Sociocultural	3	Protestors	3
Technological	4	Common Crime	5
Ecological	3	Medical	4
Legal	2	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	4

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Brazil's Federal Police launched "Operation Trapiche-FT" to investigate Hezbollah financing through Brazilian recruits. The operation uncovered a network laundering money via ghost companies, using immigrants' data. Funds were converted to cryptocurrencies linked to terrorism. Main suspect Mohammad Khir remains at large. Those involved face charges with penalties up to 75 years in prison.

A recent Brazilian operation dismantled communication towers and mobile shops run by the Primeiro Comando da Capital (PCC). The PCC uses technology for drug trafficking and scams, outpacing traditional crimes. The rise in virtual crimes, especially fraud, underscores the growing challenge of combating tech-savvy organized crime in Brazil.

# COLOMBIA



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,42/5

68,57%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	5
Economic	3	Organized Crime	5
Sociocultural	3	Protestors	4
Technological	3	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	3	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	3

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Colombian Defense Minister Iván Velásquez confirmed intelligence reports of an assassination plot against President Gustavo Petro during the July 20 military parade. Velásquez shared this after the government's two-year review but withheld further details. He stressed ongoing intelligence efforts to protect the president. Neither the Fiscalía nor Petro, who arrived late to the event, has commented. No further details have been disclosed.

The ELN's Western War Front Omar Gómez announced an indefinite armed strike starting Sunday in southern Chocó due to clashes with the Clan del Golfo. The strike affects the San Juan, Sipi, and Cajón rivers and the Novita-Torra road. The ELN accused the Clan del Golfo, allegedly aided by military and police forces, of endangering civilians during these confrontations.



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,95/5

59,04%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	2
Economic	4	Organized Crime	3
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	2
Technological	3	Common Crime	3
Ecological	2	Medical	4
Legal	3	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	2

\*The information may be partial due to the management and secrecy of the government.

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Cuba faces a severe medicine shortage, with 70% of essential drugs unavailable. State-controlled pharmacies, hindered by financial issues, cannot meet demand, leading to clandestine "private pharmacies" emerging. The government blames the U.S. embargo, but critics cite inefficiencies in the socialist system. Without significant changes, the crisis may worsen.

Cuba's debt to the Paris Club reached \$4.62 billion by 2023, the second highest in Latin America. Despite restructured payments, Cuba struggles to reduce its debt, affecting credit risk and access to loans. Dwindling foreign currency income worsens the situation, while the government continues building luxury hotels despite low occupancy rates.

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,83/5

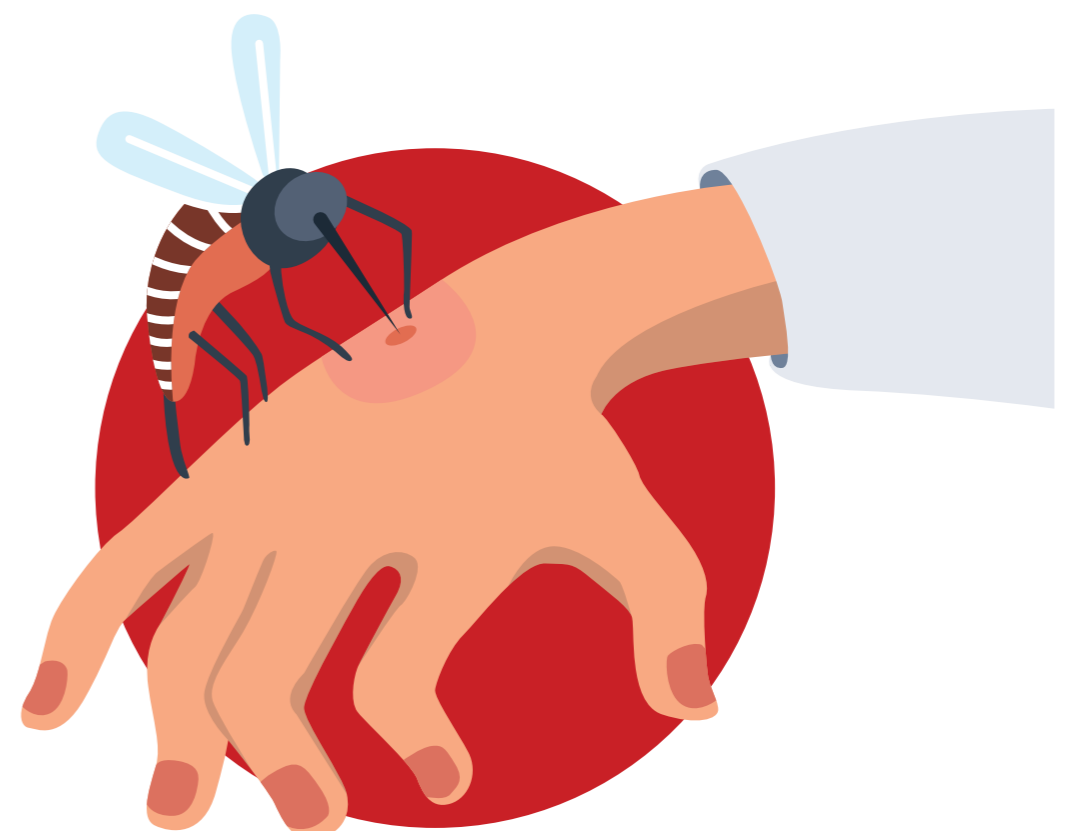
56,66%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	2
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	3
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	4
Legal	2	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Monseñor Sanabria Hospital in Puntarenas is on alert after a nearby shooting affected its entrance. Director Randall Álvarez stressed the need for strengthened security protocols in coordination with law enforcement due to rising insecurity. The shooting, originating in a nearby bar, damaged the hospital's entry but caused no injuries. This incident is part of a troubling trend of violence near Costa Rican hospitals.

Costa Rica has reported 15,652 dengue cases in 2024, an increase of 11,000 from last year. Alajuela province is the most affected, with 1,000 new cases in the past week alone. Despite the surge, no dengue-related deaths have been reported in four years. The Ministry of Health warns that 2024 may set a record, urging the public to eliminate mosquito breeding sites.





# CHILE

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,28/5

65,71%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	4
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	3	Protestors	4
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	4	Medical	2
Legal	3	Environmental	4
		Cybercrime	3

## RELEVANT EVENTS

The rise in irregular migration in northern Chile led to the application of the critical infrastructure system across three regions, enabling military and police support for border security. Initiated in February 2023, it has been extended five times, now lasting 90 days after August 16. Despite 16,657 tasks completed, some lawmakers suggest additional measures, questioning its effectiveness.

Senapred reported severe impacts from a frontal system in central and southern Chile, displacing 1,958 people and isolating over 2,000 across nine regions. Biobío, O'Higgins, and Metropolitana are the most affected, with 86 people sheltered and significant home damage. Additionally, searches for missing persons continue, 670,000 customers lack electricity, and another frontal system is imminent.

# ECUADOR

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,86/5

77,38%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	4	Terrorism	5
Economic	4	Organized Crime	5
Sociocultural	5	Protestors	3
Technological	4	Common Crime	4
Ecological	3	Medical	3
Legal	5	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	3

## RELEVANT EVENTS

The conflict in Ecuador intensified as Vice President Verónica Abad accused President Daniel Noboa of gender-based political violence. Abad filed a complaint with the Electoral Disputes Tribunal (TCE) and criticized the government for endangering her reputation. Noboa hinted at her resignation, which she denies, amid mutual accusations and the upcoming 2025 elections.

In July 2024, Pichincha, Guayas, and Manabí provinces reported the highest number of emergencies in Ecuador, with 261,813 incidents, averaging 8,446 daily. The most common issues involved public safety, healthcare, and traffic. Additionally, there were 1,310 complaints about parties and 421 vehicle crashes.



# EL SALVADOR

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,78/5

55,71%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	2
Economic	4	Organized Crime	3
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	2
Technological	2	Common Crime	3
Ecological	2	Medical	4
Legal	3	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

The Salvadoran Attorney General's Office requested the group prosecution of over 2,000 alleged MS13 gang members, including leaders, on charges like gang affiliation and money laundering. This move follows reforms enabling structure-based trials under a state of emergency declared in 2022 to combat gang violence. The measure, widely supported, has led to over 81,100 detentions since its implementation.

Bitcoin's recent drop to \$49,000, its lowest in six months, has raised concerns in El Salvador, where it is the second legal currency. Although Bitcoin rebounded to \$54,000, the decline was triggered by Japan's interest rate increase, affecting global markets. El Salvador, heavily invested in Bitcoin since 2021, holds 5,831 Bitcoins, raising worries about its economic stability.

# GUATEMALA

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,75/5

55%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	2
Economic	4	Organized Crime	3
Sociocultural	2	Protestors	3
Technological	2	Common Crime	5
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	2	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

In July 2024, Guatemala's inflation rose to 3.78%, up from June's 3.62% but lower than July 2023's 4.53%. The Urban Basic Food Basket (CBAU) cost increased by Q21.56, reaching Q888.53 per person, while the Rural Basic Food Basket (CBAR) rose by Q18.73 to Q689.69. Both the Expanded Urban and Rural Baskets also saw significant price hikes.

Guatemala and Escuintla provinces accounted for over 50% of homicides and extortions between 2023 and 2024, despite a slight national decline in homicides. Out of 2,864 homicides, 1,588 occurred in these areas. Over half of the 11,071 extortion cases reported in early 2024 were also concentrated here, with violence predominantly involving firearms and rising extortion cases.



# HONDURAS

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,90/5

58,09%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	3
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	2
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	2	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	4

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Honduran Minister of Governance, Tomás Vaquero, announced the purge of around 4,000 NGOs nationwide to ensure compliance with state regulations, following directives from the Superior Court of Accounts. Some NGOs are under investigation for fund mismanagement, especially those linked to the previous government. Currently, 19,000 NGOs are registered, with ongoing efforts to validate and monitor them.

Forced displacement due to violence in Honduras heavily impacts indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities, with 202 complaints since 2016, reports the National Human Rights Commissioner. These groups face land rights violations, violence, and lack of justice. The Miskitos are most affected, followed by Garífunas and Lencas. Displacement often results from threats, violent deaths, and extortion, with a 2022 law protecting their rights.

# MÉXICO

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,83/5

76,66%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	5	Terrorism	5
Economic	4	Organized Crime	5
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	3
Technological	2	Common Crime	5
Ecological	3	Medical	4
Legal	4	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	3

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada, Sinaloa Cartel co-founder, claims he was forcibly taken to the U.S. on July 25, 2024, under the guise of a political mediation meeting. In a letter to his lawyer, he details being ambushed, restrained, and flown to El Paso, Texas. He denies surrendering and demands transparency from both governments regarding his alleged kidnapping and associates' deaths.

As of August 3, 2024, Mexico confirmed 49 mpox (monkeypox) cases across eleven states, with 212 probable cases reported. Although the new virus variant (clade 1b) hasn't been detected in Mexico, the rise in African cases heightens risk. The Mexican Ministry of Health issued an alert, urging nationwide monitoring. Preventive measures and a response plan are in place to manage the situation.



# NICARAGUA

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,34/5

66,90%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	5	Terrorism	2
Economic	4	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	5	Protestors	2
Technological	2	Common Crime	3
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	5	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	3

\*The information may be partial due to the management and secrecy of the government.

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

The Honduran Technical Criminal Investigation Agency (ATIC) is investigating the mass registration of Nicaraguan citizens in the National Registry of Persons, focusing on potential corruption in Duyure, near the Nicaraguan border. The registrations may be linked to upcoming elections. While no arrests have been made, ATIC is collaborating with the Special Operations Fiscal Unit to verify related information.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega expelled Brazilian Ambassador Breno Souza da Costa for missing the Sandinista revolution's 45th anniversary. In response, Brazil removed Nicaraguan Ambassador Fulvia Patricia Castro Matu. Relations have been strained since July, when Brazilian President Lula da Silva mediated the release of an imprisoned Nicaraguan bishop, marking a significant diplomatic rift between the two nations.

# PANAMÁ

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,67/5

53,57%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	3
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	3	Protestors	2
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	2
Legal	2	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Panama's National Border Service (Senafrent) detected three Afghan nationals with terrorist backgrounds and several Colombians attempting to enter the United States illegally through the Darién region. The individuals were identified using biometric recognition technology. The Colombians had criminal records, including charges of arms trafficking and kidnapping. The Panamanian government plans to tighten security in the region, especially after 16 migrant deaths were reported in a single week in July 2024. Increased border control measures, including barbed wire installations, are being implemented to curb illegal migration.



# PARAGUAY

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,01/5

60,23%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	3
Economic	3	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	3
Technological	3	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	2
Legal	4	Environmental	2
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Commissioner Nimio Cardozo of Paraguay's National Police Anti-Kidnapping Unit stated that Laura Villalba, a convicted member of the Paraguayan People's Army (EPP), might know where former President Óscar Denis is located. Denis was kidnapped by the EPP in 2020, and Villalba, sentenced to 31 years for terrorism, was captured in December of that year.

Prosecutor Osmar Legal has found evidence linking Senator Líder Amarilla to suspected drug traffickers. The investigation highlights Amarilla's connections with two officials from the National Directorate of Civil Aeronautics (DINAC), who allegedly allowed drug shipments to pass through Silvio Pettrossi Airport. Although Amarilla denies illegal activity, he acknowledges knowing the suspects.

# PERU

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,91/5

78,33%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	5	Terrorism	4
Economic	4	Organized Crime	4
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	4
Technological	3	Common Crime	5
Ecological	3	Medical	3
Legal	4	Environmental	4
		Cybercrime	4

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

The Lima Chamber of Commerce (CCL) has rejected a new Peruvian law against organized crime, arguing it lacks technical support and may lead to impunity by excluding many serious crimes and only targeting those with sentences over six years. The CCL calls on Congress to amend the law to better ensure public safety and justice.

Peru is leading Latin America in planned layoffs, with 41% of HR professionals expecting to reduce staff in the latter half of 2024 due to cost-cutting and performance issues. Ecuador follows at 37%, and Argentina at 30%. Bumeran's "Salaries and Hiring" report also shows that 74% of Peruvian HR professionals have already made layoffs this year, with 55% rating government labor policies as mediocre.



# REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,76/5

55,23%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	2
Economic	3	Organized Crime	3
Sociocultural	4	Protestors	3
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	3
Legal	2	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

In response to a potential anthrax outbreak in Haiti, the Dominican Republic has implemented strict border controls at the Dajabón market. Haitian traders crossing the border are subject to inspections by military personnel equipped with masks and nitrile gloves, preventing the entry of cooked food, meat, or animals. Despite these restrictions, trade continues normally. Haitian authorities are investigating the outbreak in Fort Royal and taking preventive measures, including vaccination and public awareness campaigns, to control the spread of Bacillus Anthracis.

# TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

3,11/5

62,38%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	3	Terrorism	3
Economic	3	Organized Crime	5
Sociocultural	2	Protestors	2
Technological	3	Common Crime	5
Ecological	3	Medical	4
Legal	2	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	3

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

The Police Complaints Authority (PCA) reports a troubling increase in fatal police shootings in 2024, with 29 deaths so far, nearing 2023's total for the same period. A recent shooting in Caroni that killed three young people has heightened public outrage. The PCA is investigating amid calls for greater accountability and transparency in law enforcement.

Tobago police are alarmed by a surge in gang and gun violence, reaching unprecedented levels. ACP Collis Hazel highlighted the rise in high-powered firearms and gang activity, which were previously uncommon. With the island's murder toll at a historic 19, Hazel assured the public of the police's commitment to fighting crime and urged community support.



# URUGUAY

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

2,36/5

47,38%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	2	Terrorism	2
Economic	3	Organized Crime	3
Sociocultural	2	Protestors	2
Technological	2	Common Crime	4
Ecological	2	Medical	2
Legal	2	Environmental	3
		Cybercrime	2

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Sebastián Marset, a Uruguayan drug trafficker, is facing the collapse of his criminal network while continuing to evade capture. The recent arrest of his partner, Gianina García Troche, in Madrid—wanted by Paraguay and Bolivia for money laundering and drug trafficking—marks the latest blow to his organization. Marset has lost several key allies, including Federico Santoro Vasallo and the Insfrán Galeano brothers, significantly weakening his operations. Although he remains a fugitive, his network and support are dwindling, potentially leading to his eventual capture.

# VENEZUELA

## COUNTRY RISK PROBABILITY ASSESSMENT

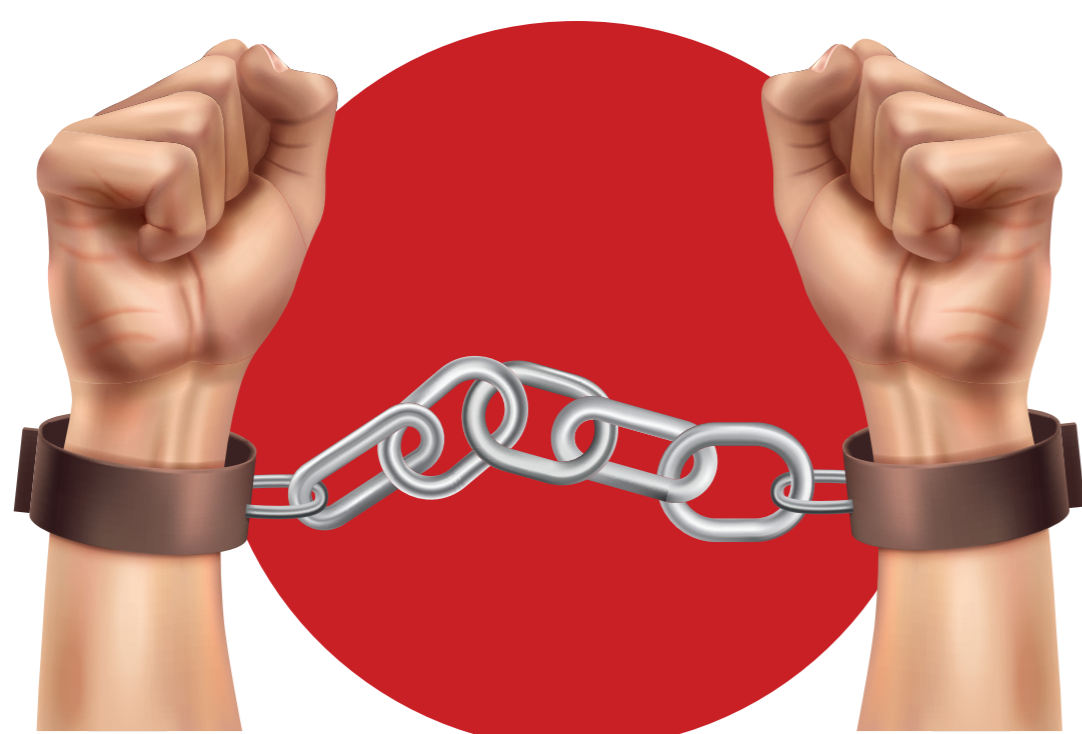
4,76/5

95,23%

VULNERABILITIES		THREATS	
Political	5	Terrorism	5
Economic	4	Organized Crime	5
Sociocultural	5	Protestors	5
Technological	5	Common Crime	5
Ecological	4	Medical	5
Legal	5	Environmental	4
		Cybercrime	5

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro has vowed not to hand over power to the opposition, which he labeled a "fascist oligarchy." He called for a "firm hand" against protests sparked by the disputed July 28 election, in which the official results declared him the winner despite widespread international skepticism. Maduro accused opposition leaders of inciting violence and demanded swift justice against protest organizers. Meanwhile, the Attorney General confirmed 25 deaths related to the protests, attributing them to opposition supporters. Human rights organizations have reported forced disappearances and condemned the repression.



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